

# Gayton Primary School/

**'POSITIVE MINDS, POSITIVE FUTURES'**

## **NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER**

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back after what I hope was a lovely Half Term break for you and the children. We now have the long run-in towards Christmas to look forward to – always an exciting time for the school!

### **Parents' information**

Many thanks to you all for attending our Parent-Teacher meetings, we hope it gave you useful information about your child's attainment so far this year. If you were unable to make the meeting, please arrange to meet with your child's teacher as soon as possible.

### **Sport**

Our Y4-6 cross country squad have enjoyed their first two races of the year. We had success both at team and at individual level, with particular success for the boys' team, who came sixth at Bebington and fifth at Birkenhead, as well as Josh Hatton (Y4) who won both his races!

Our footballers were unlucky to lose in the semi-final of the Tranmere 6-a-side competition, having played really well to qualify for this stage of the competition.

### **Values-based education work**

We are developing this further this half term, through the theme of '**Respect and tolerance**'. This will be emphasised in each class and in assemblies and PSHCE work during anti-bullying week (12-16 November) so look out for tweets showing the work we have been doing! We continue to emphasise the first half term's 'Happiness' theme, exploring this through assemblies, PSHCE, drama and underpinning other curriculum work. The term so far has had a lovely collegiate feel, with children being more aware of each others' needs and staff working closely together. Our peer mentors have started their work on the playground, looking out for children and helping to deal with any minor disputes. Our play leaders have been superb this term, helping children to organise games and to distribute equipment for use.

### **50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations**

A reminder that during the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> November, each class will be focusing on a decade from the school's history so far. As previously mentioned, on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November, we would love parents to pop in during the final hour of the day to see some of the ideas we have been working on. We would (as mentioned previously) like all children to dress in clothing from the eras below:

F2 – Y2 may come dressed in clothes from any decade from 1960s to present day

Y3 1990s

Y4 1980s

Y5 1970s

Y6 1960s

If you're a bit stuck for ideas, have a look at children's films from each decade; Y3 will be studying 'Toy Story' as part of their work, so if your child would like to dress up as a character from that film, that would be great!

### **Charity fundraisers**

Thank you to everyone for your generous sponsorship of the children for our DRIP water activity to raise funds for water collection systems for homes in Gitendri, Uganda. I am pleased to tell you that we raised £740, enough money to buy at least 12 systems.

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November, we would like to support Children in Need. The theme is 'Spotacular' and we would like the children to come in wearing spots...face paint is optional but permissible! We suggest a minimum £1 donation for the charity, to be brought in on the day, please.

Our Y6 children will be selling poppies at playtimes, from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. If your child would like to purchase one, we ask for a minimum 20p donation.

We will be changing the emphasis of our Christmas collection this year, to support the Charles Thompson Mission, which works with local homeless people. At Christmas, they ask for donations of key items and we would like the children to collect items for donation in a rucksack/backpack (which is easy to carry). Further details can be found on the Mission's Facebook page: [https://scontent-lhr3-1.xx.fbcdn.net/v/t1.0-9/fr/cp0/e15/q65/40297202\\_1863423797084877\\_8183092650950262784\\_n.jpg?nc\\_cat=108&efg=eyJpljoidCJ9&nc\\_ht=scontent-lhr3-1.xx&oh=2fe16f929146e44f77986fcd0f3fbd0c&oe=5C46326D](https://scontent-lhr3-1.xx.fbcdn.net/v/t1.0-9/fr/cp0/e15/q65/40297202_1863423797084877_8183092650950262784_n.jpg?nc_cat=108&efg=eyJpljoidCJ9&nc_ht=scontent-lhr3-1.xx&oh=2fe16f929146e44f77986fcd0f3fbd0c&oe=5C46326D). Please ensure that all filled rucksacks are returned to the office by Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November for donation.

### **PTA news**

The Hallowe'en discos will have taken place by the time you receive this newsletter – thanks to all parents that helped out during the evening.

We would like the children to bring in an advent calendar on Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup> ready for the PTA Chocolate Bingo evening on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November. The house that collects the most chocolate calendars will have an extended playtime as a reward.

The next PTA meeting takes place at 7.15pm on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November.

**On Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November, the children may wear non-uniform in return for a filled jar, bottle donation or 'nearly new' teddies for the Christmas Fair, which takes place on the same date from 5-7pm.**

We will be taking part in the Liverpool Santa Dash on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – further information will come out later this month.

The ever-popular wreath-making evening takes place on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

Our PTA officers for this year are as follows:

Chair: Nicky Chapman      Secretary: Lisa Dobson      Treasurer: Jenny Daffern

Vice-chairs: Lisa Mann and Sharon Garforth

### **Recycling**

Parents are still welcome to send in used batteries for recycling – simply bring them to the office and we will send them off as the bin becomes full!

### **Other news**

Individual photographs will be taken on Wednesday November 7<sup>th</sup>, all children should wear school clothing on this day and bring any necessary PE clothing in a bag to change into, please.

Flu immunisations for F2-Y5 children take place on Thursday November 8<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs Such will be leading a reading workshop for F2 parents and children at 6pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Y6 will be visiting the Light cinema as part of their World War II work on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November to see the film 'Zoo'.

Yours sincerely

Mark Whitehill      Headteacher